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Attorney Docket No.: 15162/01640

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GROUP 2700

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of: Masahito NIIKAWA and Hiroaki KUBO  
For: DRIVING DEVICE AND INFORMATION  
PROCESSING DEVICE FOR A DATA STORAGE  
MEDIUM  
U.S. Serial: 09/528,356  
Filed: March 17, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 2711  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned



Assistant Director  
for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 29, 2000.

James W. Williams

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams  
Signature

June 29, 2000

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not

Serial No. 09/528,356

intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following documents are cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 1-305784 (PATOROMA RES KK), published December 11, 1989;
- (2) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 1-248767 (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO LTD), published October 4, 1989; and
- (3) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 5-081824 (RICOH CO LTD), published April 2, 1993.

Applicants also wish to bring the following documents to the attention of the Examiner:

- (4) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 1-117580 (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO LTD), published May 10, 1989;
- (5) Japanese Published Examined Patent Application No. (B2) 2-643342 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP), published February 23, 1990;

Serial No. 09/528,356

- (6) Japanese Published Examined Patent Application No. (B2) 7-101336 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), published December 26, 1990;
- (7) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 5-012851 (NEC CORP), published January 22, 1993;
- (8) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 5-062458 (SEIKO EPSON CORP), published March 12, 1993;
- (9) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 6-243630 (NEC SOFTWARE KANSAI LTD), published September 2, 1994;
- (10) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 7-006842 (CASIO COMPUT CO LTD), published January 10, 1995;
- (11) Doane et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,384,067, issued January 24, 1995;
- (12) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 7-078447 (TOPPAN PRINTING CO LTD), published March 20, 1995;
- (13) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 7-098993 (TOSHIBA EMI LTD), published April 11, 1995;

Serial No. 09/528,356


- (14) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 7-234635 (FUJI XEROX CO LTD), published September 5, 1995;
- (15) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 7-296574 (OKI ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), published November 10, 1995;
- (16) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 08-317324 (CANON INC), published November 29, 1996;
- (17) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 9-050502 (SMK CORP), published February 18, 1997;
- (18) Wu et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,625,477, issued April 29, 1997;
- (19) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 9-218930 (MASUNO YOSHIKI FUKUMURO MASAHARU), published August 19, 1997;
- (20) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 10-197850 (CANON INC), published July 31, 1998; and
- (21) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 11-096327 (CITIZEN WATCH CO LTD), published April 9, 1999.

Serial No. 09/528,356

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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June 29, 2000